

15 January 1964

Handwritten signature
Lieutenant General Joseph F. Carroll
Director
Defense Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Joe:

This is the full text of a message received this morning from our Saigon Station quoting a message which Alva apparently is unable to locate and which may not yet have been transmitted from MACV.

Alva asked me to get this to you soonest in order to alert Secretary McNamara since Mr. McCone told me he would discuss the matter with Mr. McNamara as soon as he saw him. This could occur tonight at the White House. I think the subject will also be discussed at USIB tomorrow.

Faithfully yours,

Handwritten: DILA B/Pat
Marshall S. Carter
Lieutenant General, USA
Deputy Director

Attachment

Distribution:

- Original - Addressee w/att
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ILLEGIB

TO : DIRECTOR

FROM: SAIGON

0705Z 16 JAN 64

1. GENERAL HARKINS HAD RECEIVED SIMILAR PROPOSAL FROM GENERAL FITCH, AND REPLIED TO GENERAL FITCH IN MESSAGE IDENTIFIED AS PERTINENT PARAGRAPH THAT MESSAGE READS AS FOLLOWS:

"THE MOSAIC MIGHT BE USEFUL IF IT IS UP-TO-DATE, I.E., IT MUST BE BUILT IMMEDIATELY AFTER PHOTOGRAPHY. THIS COUNTRY CHANGES RAPIDLY FROM DRY SEASON TO RAINY SEASON AND THE JUNGLE TAKES OVER IN A MATTER OF DAYS. DUE TO THE LIMITED IN-COUNTRY READOUT CAPABILITY WHICH IS FULLY COMMITTED TO RVNAF TACTICAL SUPPORT, AND THE VOLUME OF COVERAGE INVOLVED IN THIS MOSAIC UNDERTAKING, MACV/2AD PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROJECT WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO COORDINATION. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE IN-COUNTRY COVERAGE OF SVN AVAILABLE THROUGH CURRENT RECONNAISSANCE EFFORT." SAIG STATION CONCURS IN THIS VIEW.

25X1

Encl

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TOP SECRET

- 2 -

2. AMB LODGE GIVES OFFHAND OPINION THAT HE DOES NOT SEE HOW PROPOSED PHOTO COVERAGE WOULD BE USEFUL IN JUDGING FUTURE PROGRESS OF COUNTERINSURGENCY PROGRAM IN SVN, BUT DOES NOT HOLD STRONG OPINION FOR OR AGAINST PROPOSAL. HE HAS READ GENERAL HARKINS' REPLY QUOTED ABOVE, AND AGREES WITH IT.

END OF MESSAGE

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TOP SECRET

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